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Alma State Savings Bank

SUMNER

Mrs. Charles Carman is quite ill at this writing.

L. C. Smith transacted business at Ithaca Monday.

I. F. Tucker is on the sick list. George Gee was at Ithaca Monday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hann and Mr. and Mrs. Davenport of Ferris were callers Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Hicks, Chas. Hicks, Mrs. Della Bennett and Mrs. Eda Stafford motored to Perrinton Tuesday.

Mr. Montgomery of Carson City was a business caller Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Smith attended the funeral of A. Morris of Ithaca, Tuesday.

Allen Stafford was at Alma Tuesday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hicks of Forest Hill were guests of their parents Tuesday and Wednesday.

George Harvey of Chicago is spending a few days with relatives and friends here.

Will Hicks and family of Alma visited their parents Saturday.

Peter Conarton was at Alma Friday and Saturday on business.

Clare Kramer of Alma spent Sunday with friends here.

Alfred Stearns of Stanton was here Wednesday visiting his parents.

Miss Irene Conarton was visiting relatives at Alma the last of the week.

Miss Nora Donahue was at Carson City shopping Saturday.

S. Rexford of Marion is spending a few days with his brother, Dave.

William Fowler was at Stanton on business for Mrs. M. J. Finch, Saturday.

W. H. Ewing transacted business at Alma Saturday.

Mrs. F. J. Graham and son were week-end guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mulford at Crystal.

Mrs. Neusbaum returned Sunday from Alma where she has been spending a few days with her daughter, Mrs. Miller.

Adney VanNorman and friend, Miss Nita Stafford, spent Sunday with friends at Alma.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Charter and daughter, Alfreda, are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vern Wilson.

Miss Ruby Converse is staying with Mrs. Charles Rosenberg.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Tomlin were guests of their son, Ray Tomlin, and family of Alma, the last of the week.

A. R. Wood and family motored to Shepherd Sunday to spend the day with friends.

Dr. F. J. Graham of Alma took dinner with his family here Monday.

Mrs. T. Shaffer and Mrs. Ben Shaffer of New Haven were Saturday evening guests of Mrs. I. F. Tucker.

Mr. and Mrs. John Robson of Alma were calling on friends Wednesday.

The friends of Miss Nellie Sperry, former resident of this place, were saddened by the news of her illness and death at her late home at Owosso.

Friends extend sympathy to the bereaved father and brother.

A. R. Wood has purchased the Johnson residence and expects to occupy it as soon as convenient.

Miss Beulah Converse is working at Wright Hall at Alma.

Eugene Carl B. Morris, 3rd Co., Coast artillery, Jackson barracks, New Orleans, La., visited his cousin, Mrs. Grace Cooley, and called on Mrs. I. F. Tucker Saturday.

He was called here by the death of his father, Rev. Howard Hicks and family of Racine, Wis., are here visiting relatives and friends.

J. D. Helman and Frank Tucker of Alma called here Saturday evening on their return from a business trip to Ionia county.

Allen Stafford and Ralph Holcomb are at Alma this week repairing his house for renting.

Mrs. Carl Shuttleworth and Mrs. Mary Hullett of New Haven were calling on friends Saturday.

The Townsend school house burned last Tuesday night.

James Fisher and wife of Riverdale were guests of Harzey Fisher and wife Saturday.

Merl Forquer of Riverdale is visiting his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. F. Forquer.

George Joseph is enjoying his new home with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lang.

Adia Cleverdon and Iret Ferris spent Saturday and Sunday at home with their parents.

ITHACA

Charles Cook and Fremont Bellinger, two of the gang of bean thieves, who were arrested last week, will plead guilty in circuit court on Friday of this week and receive their sentences.

These two young men and Frank Purdy were arrested last week, charged with stealing seven bags of beans and a fur robe from Edward Struble, who resides five miles west of Ithaca. According to the story told by the boys, Floyd Struble, a farmer residing near Mt. Pleasant, a brother of Edward, furnished the automobile and directed these three young men to his brother's farm, and arranged with them that he would sell the beans and divide the proceeds with them.

This arrangement was carried out and it also appears that beans and other property have been stolen by the same gang in both Gratiot and Isabella counties.

Floyd Struble and Frank Purdy have also been arrested by Isabella county officers and their cases will be disposed of in that county.

An important case has recently been decided in circuit court. It involves the construction of the will of Lafayette Peters, late of Sumner township, who died possessed of considerable property.

In his will Peters gave one hundred dollars each to several near relatives, one hundred dollars each to two young girls in Canada, who were gospel singers, five hundred dollars to the Elwell M. E. church and all the remainder of his property to the Board of Foreign Missions of the M. E. church.

After this will had been made and on the same day on which he died he executed the deed of one-half his farm to his brother, Abner Peters, also of

Sumner. The will contained a clause that the farm should not be sold for five years after the death of Lafayette Peters, unless it could be sold for seventy-five dollars per acre. This will was admitted to probate and the remaining eighty acres of the farm sold by the executors at less than seventy-five dollars per acre before the five years had expired.

Jess B. Peters, of New Haven, Conn., and Mary Bliss, of Green Bay, Mass., commenced a suit in chancery to set aside the deed to Abner Peters, alleging that it was procured at a time when Lafayette Peters was so near to his death that he did not understand that he was making a deed; and also that the will was absolutely void under the law which prohibits the tying up of property for more than two lives in being.

This suit was started by John Myers, of Ithaca, and Edwin H. Lyon, of St. Johns, as attorneys of the plaintiff, and about thirty parties interested in the property were named as defendants.

These defendants represented by O. G. Tuttle and George P. Stone, of Ithaca, W. A. Buhke and Charles Goggin, of Alma, and Will M. Smith, of St. Johns, moved to dismiss the case on the ground that the plaintiffs had no cause of action, and for other reasons.

Judge Seal recently handed down an elaborate opinion on this branch of the case, in which he held that it was unlawful to tie up property for five years and that estates in this country can be entailed only for the period of two lives in being and that the will was absolutely void.

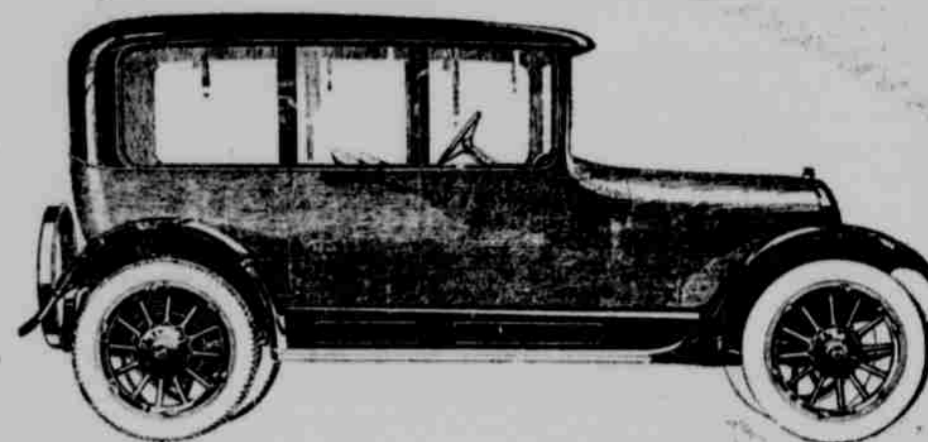
He also held a recent statute attempting to change this rule, where the gift is made to a religious or charitable institution, to be unconstitutional and void.

In a similar case Judge Murphy, of Detroit, held this statute constitutional and in the Supreme court four judges agreed with him, while the other four held it to be unconstitutional.

The Peters case will now go to the Supreme court where if the decision of Judge Seal is upheld, one-half of the property will go to the contesting heirs. The contest as to the other half will have to be tried later.

Ernest Smith, brother of O. L. Smith, Prosecuting Attorney, died Friday and the remains were taken to Union City for burial last Sunday.

Rev. Roy Hershey, former Presbyterian minister here, was in Ithaca last week calling on friends. He has accepted the pastorate of the First Presbyterian church at Piqua, Ohio. This church has a membership of eleven hundred.



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